WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A substantially pure or recombinant polypeptide comprising at least ten contiguous amino acids of the intracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. The polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein:
   a) said polypeptide comprises at least 25 contiguous amino acids of the intracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   b) said polypeptide is recombinant, comprising the intracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   c) said polypeptide further comprises at least ten contiguous amino acids of the non-intracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   d) said polypeptide comprises at least 25 amino acids of the extracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   e) said polypeptide comprises the mature SEQ ID NO: 2; or
   f) said polypeptide is a substantially pure natural polypeptide.

3. The recombinant polypeptide of Claim 1, which:
   a) consists of the mature sequence of Table 1;
   b) is an unglycosylated polypeptide;
   c) is from a human;
   d) comprises at least 40 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   e) exhibits at least three nonoverlapping segments of at least fifteen contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   f) is a natural polymorphic variant of SEQ ID NO: 2;
   g) has a length at least about 30 amino acids;
   h) exhibits at least two non-overlapping epitopes which are specific for a primate DCRS5;
   i) has a molecular weight of at least 30 kD with natural glycosylation;
   j) is a synthetic polypeptide;
   k) is in a sterile form;
   l) is in an aqueous or buffered solution;
   m) is attached to a solid substrate;
   n) is conjugated to another chemical moiety; or
   o) is physically associated with an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide;

4. A composition of matter selected from:

a) a substantially pure or recombinant polypeptide comprising at least two distinct nonoverlapping segments of at least six contiguous amino acids of the intracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;

b) a substantially pure or recombinant polypeptide comprising at least 12 contiguous amino acids of the intracellular poriton of SEQ ID NO:2; or

c) a substantially pure natural sequence polypeptide comprising mature SEQ ID NO: 2.

5. The polypeptide:

1) of Claim 4a, wherein:

a) said distinct nonoverlapping segments:

i) include one of at least twelve amino acids;

ii) include one of at least seven amino acids and a second of at least nine amino acids;

iii) include a third distinct segment of at least six amino acids; or

iv) comprise one of R355-L373, P378-L405, V407-D426, K428-D439, P441-V452, I454-G460, I465-T587, or N592-606; or

b) said polypeptide further comprises at least two distinct nonoverlapping segments of at least six contiguous amino acids of the extracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2;

2) of Claim 4b, wherein:

a) said at least twelve contiguous amino acid segment comprises one of R355-L373, P378-L405, V407-D426, K428-D439, P441-V452, I454-G460, I465-T587, or N592-606; or

b) said polypeptide further comprises at least two distinct nonoverlapping segments of at least six contiguous amino acids of the extracellular portion of SEQ ID NO: 2; or

3) of Claim 4c, further comprising a purification or detection epitope.

6. The polypeptide of Claim 4, which:

a) consists of the mature sequence of Table 1;

b) is an unglycosylated polypeptide;

c) is from a human;

d) comprises at least 40 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2;

e) exhibits at least three nonoverlapping segments of at least fifteen contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2;
f) is a natural polymorphic variant of SEQ ID NO: 2;
g) has a length at least about 30 amino acids;
h) exhibits at least two non-overlapping epitopes which are specific for a primate DCRS5;
i) has a molecular weight of at least 30 kD with natural glycosylation;
j) is a synthetic polypeptide;
k) is in a sterile form;
l) is in an aqueous or buffered solution;
m) is attached to a solid substrate;
n) is conjugated to another chemical moiety; or
o) is physically associated with an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide.

7. A composition comprising:
a) a substantially pure polypeptide of Claim 4 combined with the IL-12Rβ1 protein; or
b) said polypeptide of Claim 4 and a carrier, wherein said carrier is:
i) an aqueous compound, including water, saline, and/or buffer; and/or
ii) formulated for oral, rectal, nasal, topical, or parenteral administration.

8. A kit comprising a polypeptide of Claim 4, and:
a) a compartment comprising said polypeptide;
b) a compartment comprising an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide;
c) a compartment comprising a p40, IL-B30, or p40/IL-B30 polypeptide; or
d) instructions for use or disposal of reagents in said kit.

9. A binding compound comprising an antigen binding site from an antibody, which specifically binds to said intracellular portion of said polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein:
a) said binding compound is in a container;
b) said polypeptide is from a human;
c) said binding compound is an Fv, Fab, or Fab2 fragment;
d) said binding compound is conjugated to another chemical moiety; or
e) said antibody:
i) is raised against a peptide sequence of a mature polypeptide of Table 1;
ii) is raised against a mature DCRS5;

iii) is raised to a purified human DCRS5;
iv) is immunoselected;
v) is a polyclonal antibody; luorescent label.
vi) binds to a denatured DCRS5;
vii) exhibits a Kd to antigen of at least 30 μM;
viii) is attached to a solid substrate, including a bead or plastic membrane;
ix) is in a sterile composition; or
x) is detectably labeled, including a radioactive or fluorescent label.

10. A kit comprising said binding compound of Claim 9, and:
a) a compartment comprising said binding compound;
b) a compartment comprising:
i) a p40 polypeptide;
ii) an IL-B30 polypeptide;
iii) a DCRS5 polypeptide; and/or
iv) an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide;
c) a compartment comprising an antibody which binds selectively to:
i) a p40 polypeptide;
ii) an IL-B30 polypeptide;
iii) a DCRS5 polypeptide; and/or
iv) an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide; or
d) instructions for use or disposal of reagents in said kit.

11. A method of producing an antigen:antibody complex, comprising contacting under appropriate conditions a primate DCRS5 polypeptide with an antibody of Claim 9, thereby allowing said complex to form.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein:
a) said complex is purified from other cytokine receptors;
b) said complex is purified from other antibody;
c) said contacting is with a sample comprising an interferon;
d) said contacting allows quantitative detection of said antigen;
e) said contacting is with a sample comprising said antibody; or
f) said contacting allows quantitative detection of said antibody.

13. A composition comprising:

a) a sterile binding compound of Claim 9, or

b) said binding compound of Claim 9 and a carrier, wherein said carrier is:

i) an aqueous compound, including water, saline, and/or buffer; and/or

ii) formulated for oral, rectal, nasal, topical, or parenteral administration.

14. An isolated or recombinant nucleic acid encoding said DCRS5 polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein said:

a) DCRS5 is from a human; or

b) said nucleic acid:

i) encodes an antigenic peptide sequence of Table 1;

ii) encodes a plurality of antigenic peptide sequences of Table 1;

iii) exhibits identity over at least thirteen nucleotides to a natural cDNA encoding said segment;

iv) is an expression vector;

v) further comprises an origin of replication;

vi) is from a natural source;

vii) comprises a detectable label;

viii) comprises synthetic nucleotide sequence;

ix) is less than 6 kb, preferably less than 3 kb;

x) is from a primate;

xi) comprises a natural full length coding sequence;

xii) is a hybridization probe for a gene encoding said DCRS5; or

xiii) is a PCR primer, PCR product, or mutagenesis primer.

15. A cell or tissue comprising said recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 14.

16. The cell of Claim 15, wherein said cell is:

a) a prokaryotic cell;

b) a eukaryotic cell;

c) a bacterial cell;

d) a yeast cell;

e) an insect cell;

f) a mammalian cell;

g) a mouse cell;

h) a primate cell; or

i) a human cell.

17. A kit comprising said nucleic acid of Claim 14, and:

a) a compartment comprising said nucleic acid;

b) a compartment comprising a nucleic acid encoding:

i) a p40 polypeptide;

ii) an IL-B30 polypeptide;

iii) a DCRS5 polypeptide; and/or

iv) an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide;

c) a compartment comprising:

i) a p40 polypeptide;

ii) an IL-B30 polypeptide;

iii) a DCRS5 polypeptide; and/or

iv) an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide;

d) a compartment comprising an antibody which selectively binds to:

i) a p40 polypeptide;

ii) an IL-B30 polypeptide;

iii) a DCRS5 polypeptide; and/or

iv) an IL-12Rβ1 polypeptide; or

e) instructions for use or disposal of reagents in said kit.

18. A nucleic acid which:

a) hybridizes under wash conditions of 30 minutes at 30°C and less than 2M salt to the portion of SEQ ID NO: 1 encoding the intracellular portion; or

b) exhibits identity over a stretch of at least about 30 nucleotides to the intracellular poriton of a primate DCRS5.

19. The nucleic acid of Claim 18, wherein:

a) said wash conditions are at 45°C and/or 500 mM salt; or

b) said stretch is at least 55 nucleotides.

20. The nucleic acid of Claim 18, wherein:

a) said wash conditions are at 55°C and/or 150 mM salt; or

b) said stretch is at least 75 nucleotides.

21. A method of modulating physiology or development of a cell comprising contacting said cell with:

a) an antagonist of p40/IL-B30 which is a complex comprising:
   i) the extracellular portion of a primate DCRS5; and/or
   ii) the extracellular portion of a primate IL-12Rβ1;
b) an antagonist of p40/IL-B30 which is an antibody which binds a complex comprising:
   i) primate DCRS5; and/or
   ii) primate IL-12Rβ1;
c) an antagonist of p40/IL-B30 which is an antibody which bonds to DCRS5;
d) an antagonist of p40/IL-B30 which is an antibody to IL-12Rβ1;
e) an antagonist of p40/IL-B30 which is an antisense nucleic acid to DCRS5 or IL-12Rβ1; or
f) an agonist of p40/IL-B30 which is an antibody which binds a complex comprising:
   i) primate DCRS5; and/or
   ii) primate IL-12Rβ1.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting is with an antagonist, and:
a) said contacting is in combination with an antagonist to:
   i) IL-12;
   ii) IL-18;
   iii) TNF; or
   iv) IFNγ; or
b) said cell is from a host which:
   i) exhibits signs or symptoms of a chronic Th1 mediated disease;
   ii) exhibits symptoms or signs of multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, diabetes, psoriasis, or sepsis; or
   iii) receives an allogeneic transplant.

23. The method of Claim 21, wherein said contacting is with an agonist, and:
a) said contacting is in combination with:
   i) IL-12;
   ii) IL-18;
   iii) TNF; or
   iv) IFNγ; or
b) said cell is from a host which:

i) exhibits signs or symptoms of a chronic TH2 response;

ii) suffers from a tumor, viral, or fungal growth;

iii) receives a vaccine; or

iv) suffers from an allergic response.